

Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee

2018-Nov-28 □ 7:15pm

Attendees

Executive committee

Christopher Tonkin (chair), Jack Johnson, Scott Smith, Adam MacNeill

APD/COBWEB: Officer Neil Simard

Town of Arlington: Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner

Stephan Miller, Muris Kobaslija, Rod Holland, David Creedon, Mick Beck

Doug Mayo-Wells

Remembrance of Kevin Greeley

A force in the Mass Ave rebuild, a friend to this committee, we remember his wonderful voice.

Review/approval of October minutes

Table of contents to be updated and names corrected. Approved as amended.

COBWEB

Not riding since conclusion of bus lane pilot, nothing new to report.

Bus lane pilot - Daniel

Mass Ave eastbound, AM rush hour from Lake St to Alewife Brook Parkway - 10K riders/day

Goals: improve traffic flow, reduce travel time, increase reliability

Piloted with minimal construction (bus stop relocation), signalization changes (bus priority), cones/signs, education & enforcement

Post pilot, signal changes at 16 and bus queue jump lane at Lake to remain (as discussed in public forum Nov 14); other features removed pending final implementation.

Pilot assessment ongoing, initial findings include:

Survey conducted before pilot, 300 respondents - 51% drivers, 26.5% transit riders, 7.5% walkers, 10% cyclists

Most bus riders (2/3) dissatisfied or very dissatisfied; other modes neutral

Concerns about bus congestion, safety..

Survey of bus riders conducted during pilot - ~300 respondents, high satisfaction, positive comments, riders perceive speed gains, 25% report taking bus more often.

Post-pilot survey open, ~300 responses to date, many comments requesting to lengthen bus lane.

Waze data

Monitoring for several weekdays from 8-3:30am

Observed 5-8min delays in first few days of pilot but normalized after adjustment period

MBTA data (preliminary - covering start of pilot)

Bus route 77 - at 50% percentile, 50% travel time reduction in corridor (~12min to ~6min)
at 90th percentile (typical "bad day") from 20 min to 10 min with 40% reduction in variability

Police presence

8 officers at side streets, reduced to 3 for last 2 weeks of pilot

Observed congestion at Lafayette St, mopeds, scooters in bike lane.

No accidents reported

Conclusions

Positive feedback, but need the rest of the MBTA data

Good for bus riders, cyclists

Low impact on vehicle traffic

Low impact to on-street parking (between 6-9am) - but still working to address local business concerns

Concerns about pedestrian safety where bumpout was removed

MBTA experienced no complaints from bus drivers

Working to resolve concerns with green pavement paint at Lake st

"Bus-bunching" still an issue

Snow removal will present a challenge

Full MBTA data expected soon

Expect to issue recommendations in early 2019 for some permanent bus lane - no funding source yet - exploring with MBTA, other potential funders

Working with Cambridge, DCR w/r/t pedestrian safety improvements

TAC report - Scott

TAC also discussed BRT pilot.

TAC annual social is Jan 9

Reviewing High School rebuild traffic study; concerns w/r/t pedestrian access

Thorndike St: request for calming between Herbert and Bikeway

(lots of vehicles dropping off commuters, then traveling at high speed)

High School rebuild - Mick Beck

Conducted count of current bike usage on a recent Tuesday: 85 bikes (4 Lime bikes).
School rebuild represents opportunity to encourage students to bike/walk
Sent bike count data sent to principal, superintendent, head of school committee,
forwarded to architects

ABAC to form working group to recommend bike infrastructure (parking/racks, Minuteman access, etc.): Muris, Doug, Scott, Mick, Chris, David

Bikeshare update - Daniel

Reviewed document of latest bike use statistics and winter plan.

Tri-Town Meeting

Saturday December 8th - Agenda TBA
Bedford to host

Pedestrian crossing near Trader Joe's on Minuteman Trail

Inclement weather interfered with plans to review and assess safety

ABAC Action Plan for 2019

ABAC should identify/prioritize objectives to facilitate budget planning, e.g., Lake Street crossing (did not get Complete Streets funding), bridge repair over Alewife Brook, bike lane repainting, signage, etc.

Vandalism of bike repair station at Magnolia park

All tools removed except one wrench.
Station was low security, exploring upgrade options.

ABAC Winter Social

Speaker: Scott Mullen - Talk on future of bike share
David contact potential venues to reduce cost

ABAC response to road resurfacing materials

Used on Foster, Tufts, Willow
Anecdotal, seems to be wearing well

25th Anniversary Bill

(Haiku installation)
Net \$500 owed by Arlington after contributions from Aeronaut, Bedford, Lexington
Will pay from petty cash

Adjourned.